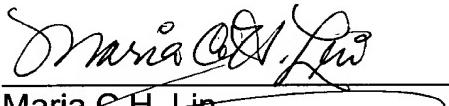


The delay in issuance of the patent by this notice is inexcusable. An early issuance of the patent is requested.

Applicant attempted to contact Kimella Rodgers, the issuer of the Notice. However, no contact information was provided in the Notice. It was only through the office of Patent Quality Review that a telephone number was obtained. However, the issuer could not be reached. The courtesy of Ms. Kay Kim is deeply appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: February 24, 2003

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